

TOP SECRET

13 February 1980

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 13 February 1980

The Director chaired the meeting; Mr. Carlucci was out of the city.

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The Director introduced [ ] as a new Special Assistant in his office.

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McMahon reported briefly on the following:

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-- [ ] that the Soviets are in trouble re Afghanistan military, e.g., Soviets are being shot at. The Director noted a good piece on this in today's NID. McMahon reported also indications that the Soviets may lose control in Paktia province. A brief discussion followed on several aspects of this situation including problems created by the Soviet use of Afghanistan military before using Soviet troops.

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--McMahon reported briefly on [ ] attendance at yesterday's Mini-SCC(I) meeting on El Salvador. He said David Aaron had pointed up the need to give more attention to Central America and [ ] McMahon said Aaron has asked that we get with Assistant Secretary of State (LA) Bowdler today re increased coverage of the Caribbean and Central America.

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Fitzwater reported a complaint received from Edwin Moore, former Agency employee convicted of espionage, that he has been forced to wait in a queue for Agency response to his FOIA request.

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Fitzwater reported his office is being swamped with retirements, noting there were [ ] in December, [ ] in January and [ ] so far this month. A brief discussion followed on reasons for so many retirements and on concerns that the average retirement age of Agency employees has dropped sharply in recent years from 57 to 52. It was agreed that generous retirement benefits is the driving force. [ ]

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Hetu said as a result of yesterday's White House meeting re the President's press conference scheduled for today we are to provide 1) authoritative figures on casualties in the Afghanistan situation, 2) intelligence on Soviet activities in the Transcaucasus area, and 3) an agreed upon number within the intelligence community of Soviet troops in the Afghanistan area. Relatedly, Clarke provided a report to the Director on a meeting attended by Ray Huffstutler, OSR, yesterday on interagency ground rules to be established for reporting on Soviet strength in Afghanistan. Clarke suggested the President be advised to stick with his previously announced figure of about 100,000 Soviet troops involved in Afghanistan. Discussion followed on the validity of this count. The Director said we should leave it to the White House as to how to use such figures but that we should provide the best figures we have on Soviet ground troops in Afghanistan, Soviet troops operating from airfields near the USSR-Afghanistan border, and other Soviet forces poised against Afghanistan. [ ]

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Hetu reported that as a follow-up to the President's State of the Union Address, the NBC "Today" show intends to produce a three-part series on the new situation for U.S. foreign intelligence. He said this will require NBC filming at Headquarters and that the series is scheduled to be presented in early March. Hetu noted also that New York Times columnist Tad Szulc is following up the State of the Union Address with an article on the state of U.S. intelligence. [ ]

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Hitz reported Diane Lavoy, HPSCI staffer, had met with [ ] re Committee interest in the quality of our reporting [ ] and that Ms. Lavoy's queries were apparently satisfied. Hitz added, however, his continued concern re Ms. Lavoy's probing technique of attempts at direct contacts with our officers (Taylor noted she had made direct contact with a DDS&T officer), and the possibility of her accessing raw intelligence, e.g., cables. [ ]

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Hitz reported the SSCI has asked to be briefed 19 February on the [ ] and suggested Mr. Carlucci make the presentation. The Director agreed and noted that if Mr. Carlucci is unavailable, [ ] would be able to handle it. [ ]

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Silver reported he has forwarded to the Director a memorandum from Dr. Brzezinski which was LDX'd last night which explains that the Director will be the principal spokesman for the Administration re Charters Legislation. The Director said he will meet today with David Aaron to review the situation as described in a report received from Silver yesterday. Hitz commented that though our interests seem to be holding well in most instances re Charters it appears we are losing ground on the issue of prior notification to the Congress re covert action. [redacted] 25X1

Wortman reported that as a result of inflation and more probably because of the soaring costs of silver, Eastman-Kodak has raised prices 50 percent which is likely to impact heavily on NPIC. With particular regard for the Operations Directorate and the Office of Communications, Wortman reported a State Department bill has been prepared which will raise household replacement values of overseas personnel from \$15,000 to \$25,000. He suggested the bill will also be retroactive. The Director asked if his special authorities could be exercised in this matter for Agency personnel. Wortman will look into it. [redacted] 25X1

Wortman reported that special efforts to increase the attendance of new employees in orientation courses has been very successful. The Director noted his pleasure at this report and noted also that [redacted] 25X1 should be able to take advantage of this re APEX. Wortman reported also that State has taken an 8 percent cut in travel but with higher impact implications for our Agency personnel, e.g., communications. Wortman said he has asked Ed Sherman, Director of Finance, to look into this and to review the details with Maury Lipton to determine how we should address the problem with State. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

The Director reported yesterday's 1981 Program and Budget Authorization hearings at the HPSCI went well. He said, however, he needs to provide additional information to the Committee on staffing in the Operations Directorate. While noting the Directorate's 1981 position strength is adequate, the Director said additional data are needed by the HPSCI re DO overseas position strength, particularly in Latin America and Africa Divisions. McMahon explained added positions in these areas were taken from Headquarters strength. Citing a memorandum he has forwarded to the Director, McMahon said the DO cannot function adequately at its current overall strength--since preparation of the 1981 budget, increased tasking especially in covert action coupled with errors in previous calculations of DO cutbacks has raised the need for additional positions. The Director said he will deal with this separately, but that he remains firm in terms of the 1981 program level. The Director asked Fitzwater to provide him with statistics re the Bill Wells' [redacted] 25X1 reduction--statistics are to include reductions by component and grade levels in order to remove HPSCI confusion re positions versus people. [redacted] 25X1

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The Director noted to Clarke that he is getting mixed reporting signals on South Korea General Chon's actions and their implications if Chon attempts to achieve the status of former President Pak. Clarke explained.

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